

THE

REHEARSAL.

1. The Review plays his *Wallet* against *Dean* and *Chapter*, *Mayor* and *Aldermen*.
2. The *Whiggs* and *Dissenters* have *Spies* upon the *Clergy* all over *England*.
3. The Review Threatens more of the *Chapter of Durham*. And to give *Black Lists* of all the *Clergy* in *England*.
4. He falls upon the *Bishops*, particularly the *Bishop of Durham* with a Terrible Account of the *Clergy*.
5. All out of Respect to the *Church*!
6. What the *Church* suffers by this.
7. The Prejudice of being *Slander'd*, tho' *Unjustly*.
8. The Representation made of the *Church of England* to *Foreign Churches* and *Countries*. Le Clerk lys *Leger* for this Purpose in *Holland*.

SATURDAY, February 5. 1708.

(1.) Country-man.

Here's a Tryal of Skill betwixt you, Master, and Mr. Review. He is very Positive in his Story of the Parish of St. Nicholas in Durham Applying themselves to the *Dean* and *Chapter* there about a *Lecturer*, and the Repeated Oaths and Curses of a Certain D. D. and Prebendary of the *Cathedral* there, upon no other Provocation. He closes his Paper of the 15 last Month, N. 126. with these Words.

" If either the *Dignify'd Drone* himself, " or any Body else, that takes Offence at " this Story, demand a Proof of Fact; or " a Long Account of the like Scandalous Beha- " viour, either of him or some others of the " same Society— My Record is in my *Wal-* " let, to which Names, Surnames, Time, and " Place are Affix'd, and Ready to be shown " at Demand.

Rehearsal. He has set down the *Place* already, the *Chapter House* of the *Cathedral* of *Durham*. And the *Time* we may Easily find by the *Occasion*, the *Application* of the *Parish* of St. Nicholas about a *Lecturer*. But if ther never was any such *Application*, then ther's an end of all this fine Story! And for this, the only Dispute is, Whether is of most Credit, *De Foe's WALLET*, or the Certificates of the *Dean* and *Chapter*, and of the *Mayor* and *Aldermen*?

(2.) But when these *Names* and *Surnames* come out of the *Wallet*, then, Gentlemen, you will see what Loving Neighbours you have, who furnish your *Enemies* with such Materials to Print against you! You see their *Moderation*! And such *Spies* there are all over the *Nation*, who make it their *Business* to *Gossip* about any *Story* they hear of a *Clergy-*

Man; and if they can *Find* none, to *Make* them. Then send them up to the *Observator* or *Review*— And they're *Printed* presently! Hence came the *Stories* of *Oakhampton*, *Taunton*, *North-hampton*, *Harpden*, the *Wea-ther-Cock* at *Oxford*, and all the rest which I have been at the Pains to Confute in my first Volume.

(3.) And here the Review Threatens others besides whom he Calls the *Dignify'd Drone*, and of the same *Society* too, with a *Long-Account* of their *Scandalous Behaviour*. And says, p. 505. That, there are *Scandalous Black Lists* of the *Debauch'd Clergy*, all over the *Nation*. And p. 508. he says, while such *Wretches* as these are *Spread* over this *Nation*, and *Open Vice* and *Prophaness* reign among the *Clergy Un-restrain'd*—

(4.) Country-m. This is upon the *Bishops*. And p. 507. he calls the *Bishop of Durham*, *Old Bishop Eli*, for not Correcting this *Dignify'd Drone*. And thence Prognosticats the Down-fall of the *Church*, as of the *Ark* under *Bishop Eli*, &c. The *Reproach* is (says he *ibid.*) when this *Devil* is known, and yet *Suffer'd*, *Embrac'd*, and *let go Unpunish'd*. And p. 503. says, It is known to his *Superiors*. And (*ibid.*) When *Scandalous* and *Impious Wretches* pass without *Censure*, and such *People* are *Wittingly* permitted to serve at the *Altar* and *Administer* in *Holy things*, who are *Scandals to a Christian Country*, the *shame* of their *Sex* as well as *Sett*, the *Reproach* of their *Neighbours*, and an *Offence* to all *Sober Christians*— And p. 506 when the *Sons of the Church* become *Sons of Sodom*, and *Guides to the Devil*— They grow *Fathers of Hell*, and *Stock-Jobblers for the Devil*. Then he makes the Application

tion, That it seems to me (says he) there are the most Vicious Clergy-Men Suffer'd, and the fewest Punish'd in the Church of England, of any Church or Society of Religious in these Parts of the World. And p. 505 says, It is Surprising, that the Disciplinary part of the English Church shou'd be thus Remissly Manag'd— That those who have the Government of the Church, shou'd hold the Reins so slack, and let such Black things as these pass Unpunish'd.

(5.) Rehears. Do not stop, Country-Man, till you have told his Excuse, why all this is no Reflection upon the Church of England. He professes a great Respect to her. And the next words to what you last Quoted are these,

"Nor am I at all Exposing the Church of England in this, I am sure it is far from my Design, Let them take it, as they please, That I am wholly Unconcern'd about— If this be not a Service to the Church in their Esteem, I am sorry for their Eye Sight.

I put those words in Italick as he do's Let them take it, &c. because I suppose he wou'd have you lay Particular Stres upon them.

Country-m. And so we bought. For it shews what a Deep Regard he has to the Church. That he is so perfectly Unconcern'd how she takes all this! And her Eye-sight must be Bad indeed, if she Sees not what Loving Friends she has under her Roof, whom she Tolerates and is Requir'd to Cherish! If I had such a Parcel under my Roof—

(6.) Rehears. This is but one Dirty fellow. What signify his Slanders?

Country-m. Is ther but One of them then? Master, his Name is Legion. You have Fought with more Beasts than St. Paul at Ephesus. But who Encourages this Worthy Spark, sends him Materials, and supports his Paper? When he's off of Scandal, he's so Heavily Dull, that none wou'd be at the Pains to Read him,

And if the Man such Praises have, What must they who keep the K—ve?

Rehears. If the Church think, That where so much Dirt is Thrown, None will Stick, I wish I may be the false-Prophet?

(7.) Country-m. I remember once I was telling a very Wise Neighbour of Mine a Scandal some had Rais'd upon a Friend of his. But he stoppe me short, and wou'd not hear it. He said, I love not to hear any ill Things of a Friend. For tho' I am satisfy'd it is False, yet I cannot help Thinking of it when I see him, and it Sullies.

Rehears. The Observation is Good. A Man wou'd think himself Unfortunate who were

oblig'd to Vindicate his Courage, or a Woman her Reputation. None can be more Convinc'd than I am of the Falshood and Malice of these Accusations against the Clergy, because I have Chas'd so many of them and Detected them. Yet because I know them not all, when I see one in that Habit Ride by upon the Road, these Scandals come into my Mind, whether I will or not.

Country-m. You have Quoted to me before a Remark of the late Observator, That whenever you see a Clergy-Man go into a House you may Conclude it is either to Debauch the Man's Wife, or to Pick his Pocket. And I cannot help Thinking of this for my life when I see a Clergy-Man go into a Door. And I have heard idle fellows say in the Street, Now? Ware Wife, or Pocket— And this is the Reverence we have for our Clergy, Occasion'd by these vile Stories that fly about.

(8.) Rehears. But what will Foreign Countries think of our Church? For these Papers go Abroad, at least to Holland. And Le Clerk may put them into French, as he has done the Book of the Rights in his Bibliothèque Choise, which go's over Europe. And to all these Countries De For Addresses himself in the Characters he gives of our Clergy,

That Foreign Countries may not see Our Ecclesiastick Nudity; And it become a New Proverbial Jest, To be as Wicked as an English Priest.

And to turn his Argument upon him, when they shall hear, That this Man is not Punish'd, but Continues still to Write on Reviews three times a Week, in the Face of the Church and Government, Increasing every Day in these Black Characters of the Church and Clergy: What can they think, but that all thele are True, and so Notorious as not to be Deny'd! Or else, That the Church of England has few Friends who are Concern'd how Vile she is Render'd to the World, and to Posterity!

A D V E R T I S E M E N T S.

An Account of the late Establishment of Presbyterian Government by the Parliament of Scotland Anno 1690. Together with the Methods by which it was settled, and the Consequences of it: As also several publick Acts, Speeches, Pleadings, and other Matters of Importance, relating to the Church in that Kingdom. To which is added a Summary of the Visitation of the Universities there; in a Letter from a Gentleman at Edinburgh to his Friend at London.

THE Spirit of Calvinism and Slander, Examin'd, Chas'tisid, and Expos'd, in a Letter to a Malicious Libeller. More Particularly Address'd to Mr. George Ridpath, Newmonger, Containing some Animadversions on his Scurrilous Pamphlets, Publish'd by him against the Kings, Parliaments, Laws, Nobility and Clergy of Scotland. Together with a short account of Presbyterian Principles and Consequential Practices.